

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

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LENNA JOYCE VAUGHN,  
Plaintiff.

Case No. 2:21-cv-00953-EJY

V.

ANDREW SAUL, Commissioner of Social Security,  
Defendant.

## ORDER

10 Before the Court is Plaintiff Lenna Joyce Vaughn's Application for Leave to Proceed *in  
11 forma pauperis*. ECF No. 1. Plaintiff also submitted a Complaint challenging the Social Security  
12 Administration's denial of Social Security Disability Insurance benefits and Supplemental Security  
13 Income benefits. ECF No. 1-1.

## I. Application to Proceed *in forma pauperis*

15 Plaintiff submitted the declaration required by 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a) showing an inability to  
16 prepay fees and costs or give security for them. Accordingly, Plaintiff's request to proceed *in forma*  
17 *pauperis* is granted.

## II. Screening the Complaint

Upon granting a request to proceed *in forma pauperis*, a court must additionally screen the complaint pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e). A plaintiff must satisfy the following procedural requirements in order to file a complaint in a Social Security appeal before a federal district court: (1) the plaintiff must establish that she has exhausted her administrative remedies pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 405(g), and that the civil action was commenced within sixty days after notice of a final decision; (2) the complaint must indicate the judicial district in which the plaintiff resides; (3) the complaint must state the nature of the plaintiff's disability and when the plaintiff claims she became disabled; and, (4) the complaint must contain a plain, short, and concise statement identifying the nature of the plaintiff's disagreement with the determination made by the Social Security

1 Administration and show that the plaintiff is entitled to relief. *Montoya v. Colvin*, Case No. 2:16-  
2 cv-00454-RFB-NJK, 2016 WL 890922, at \*2 (D. Nev. Mar. 8, 2016) (internal citations omitted).  
3 Plaintiff's Complaint represents that she has exhausted her administrative remedies and timely  
4 commenced this action after the Social Security Administration's Appeal Council denied her  
5 request for review. ECF No. 1-1 at 3. The Complaint further indicates the judicial district within  
6 with Plaintiff resides (*id.* at 1) and alleges that she became disabled beginning on August 1, 2017,  
7 and has medically determinable severe impairments consisting of degenerative disc disease of the  
8 lumbar and thoracic spine, osteoarthritis of the right shoulder, and osteoarthritis of the left knee.  
9 *Id.* at 2. Plaintiff's Complaint also alleges that the Commissioner committed reversible error  
10 because "the ALJ did not properly weight the medical evidence that [Plaintiff] had more  
11 limitations as expressed by state agency physicians" and "the ALJ finding of the ability to perform  
12 past relevant work as generally and actually performed is not supported by substantial evidence."  
13 *Id.* at 3. Plaintiff's Complaint shall therefore proceed against Defendant.

14 Accordingly,

15 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Plaintiff's Application for Leave to Proceed *in forma*  
16 *pauperis* (ECF No. 1) is GRANTED.

17 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiff's Complaint (ECF No. 1-1) **shall** proceed against  
18 Defendant.

19 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of the Court **shall** detach and file Plaintiff's  
20 Complaint (ECF No. 1-1).

21 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of the Court **shall** serve the Commissioner of  
22 the Social Security Administration by sending a copy of the Summons and Complaint by certified  
23 mail to: (1) Office of the Regional Chief Counsel, Region IX, Social Security Administration, 160  
24 Spear Street, Suite 800, San Francisco, CA 94105-1545, and (2) the Attorney General of the United  
25 States, Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington DC 20530.

26 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of the Court **shall** issue Summons to the United  
27 States Attorney for the District of Nevada, and deliver the Summons and Complaint to the U.S.  
28 Marshal for service.

1 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendant **shall** have **sixty (60) days** from the date of  
2 service to file his answer or responsive pleading to Plaintiff's Complaint in this case.

3 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, henceforth, Plaintiff **shall** serve upon Defendant a copy  
4 of every pleading, motion, or other document submitted for consideration by the Court. Plaintiff  
5 shall include with the original paper submitted for filing a certificate stating the date that a true and  
6 correct copy of the document was mailed to Defendant. The Court may disregard any paper received  
7 by a district judge, magistrate judge, or the Clerk of the Court which fails to include a certificate of  
8 service.

9 DATED THIS 19th day of May, 2021.

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12 ELAYNA J. YOUCAH  
13 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE  
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